* Frequent review meetings are conducted with the concerned State Governments and implementing agencies.

Setting up of power plants in Chhattisgarh

†2517. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals sent by Government of Chhattisgarh to the Ministry for approval and assistance to establish new power generation units;

(b) the date since when each proposal is pending;

(c) the details of the proposals which have been approved in years 2004-05 and 2005-06; and

(d) the details of the progress made regarding approval and assistance to pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) As per Electricity Act, 2003 the requirement of according techno economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority has been dispensed with the thermal generation. No proposal has been received for setting up of any hydro power generation station in Chhattisgarh for concurrence of Central Electricity Authority.

Assistance to States providing free power to farmers

2518. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central Government assistance is given to the States which offer free power supply to the farmers:

(b) if so, how much is the amount granted to each State; and

(c) the subsidies or incentives given by the Central Government to match the free electricity given to the farmers by States?

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†Original notice of the question was reesived in-Hindi.